

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 DJIBOU 00307 151350Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 STE-01 /012 W
-----039087 151351Z /44

P R 150730Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 202
INFO US DESPATCH AGENTNEW YORK

UNCLAS DJIBOUTI 0307

FOR AF/EX

EO: 11652: N/A
TAGS: AFSP, MOPS ET DJ
SUBJ: CONTAINER SHELL GAME

REF: (A) DJIBOUTI 2092, (B) DJIBOUTI 277 , (C) DJIBOUTI 271
(D) DJIBOUTI 187 (NOTAL) (E) STATE 176380, (F) US DESPATCH
P 011851Z JUL 77, (G) US DESPATCH O 282100Z JUL 77

1. DEPARTMENT AWARE OUR DEEP CONCERN ABOUT MYSTERIOUS
MOVES CONTAINER WHICH IS CARRYING AIR CONDITIONERS,
APPLIANCES AND OTHER ELECTRICAL GOODS. IT IS CLEAR THAT SOME-
ONE DESPERATELY WANTED CARRY THIS FREIGHT AND HAS NOT HESITATED
TO MISINFORM DESPATCH AGENT AND DEPARTMENT ABOUT LOCAL CONDITIONS
AND LOCATION SHIPMENT.

2. THE FIRST MISINFORMATION CONCERNED CLAIMED INABILITY DJIBOUTI
PORT RECEIVE CONTAINERS. (REF F). THIS IS FALSE. DJIBOUTI
HANDLES ALL CONTAINER SIZES. (REFTEL D.)

3. THE SECOND FALSEHOOD (REFTEL E) VESSEL IN DJIBOUTI AND
COUDN'T CONTACT EMBASSY. RIDICULOUS. NO ONE AT DJIBOUTI PORT
HAD EVER HEARD OF VESSEL.

4. THE THIRD PREPOSTEROUS STATEMENT (REF G) CLAIMED THAT
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DRIVER HAD DRIVEN FROM ASSAB AND WAS WANDERING DISCONSOLATELY
ARROUND DJIBOUTI IN SEARCH EMBASSY. WISHFUL THINKING.
THIS IS NO LONGER HUMEROUS.

5. APPARENTLY ALL OF THIS SUBTERFUGE IS DUE FACT THAT SHIPPING
COMPANY WHICH CARRIED CARGO DOES NOT CALL AT DJIBOUTI ANYMORE.
WE ASSUME THAT CALCULATION MADE THAT TRANSHIPMENT ASSAB COULD

BE MADE EXPEDITIOUSLY BEFORE ANYONE WOULD NOTICE. UNFORTUNATELY, THERE ARE SEVERAL SERIOUS WARS GOING ON IN OUR NEIGHBORING COUNTRY, AND ASSAB IS NOW BEING USED AS MAJOR MILITARY RESUPPLY CENTER AND IS CHOCK-A-BLOCK WITH SOVIET AND EAST EUROPEAN VESSELS. WE UNDERSTAND THAT COMMERCIAL CARGOS NOW ENCOUNTERING DELAYS OF UP TO 30 DAYS BEFORE BEING ABLE UNLOAD. WE HOPE NO ONE WILL ATTEMPT TO TRANSPORT CONTAINER BY ROAD FROM ASSAB. NOT ONLY IS THIS METHOD PRACTICALLY IMPOSSIBLE, MILITARY CONVOYS ON ASSAB ROAD HAVE BEEN SUBJECT FREQUENT ATTACK.

6. WE HAVE NOW SIGNED LEASE FOR NOB/RESIDENCES AND HOPE TO MOVE IN SOON. WE NEED THOSE SUPPLIES AND ARE FROSTRATED THAT WE UNABLE RECEIVE ANY FACTUAL INFORMATION ABOUT THIS SHIPMENT. WE THINK THAT SOMEONE HAS BEEN PURPOSEFULLY MISINFORMING DEPARTMENT ON THIS SHIPMENT AND EMPHATICALLY REQUEST THAT THIS COMPANY NOT BE ENTRUSTED WITH ANY MORE SHIPMENTS TO DJIBOUTI.

7. DEPARTMENT REQUESTED ASCERTAIN WHEREABOUTS SHIPMENT AND ADVISE PROBABLY ETA DJIBOUTI. CLARKE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SUPPLIES, CONTAINERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977DJIBOU00307
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770293-0995
Format: TEL
From: DJIBOUTI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770862/aaaacalw.tel
Line Count: 82
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 831ef25a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 DJIBOUTI 2092, 77 DJIBOUTI 277, 77 DJIBOUTI 271, 77 DJIBOUTI 187, 77 STATE 176380
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1604889
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONTAINER SHELL GAME
TAGS: AFSP, MOPS, ET, DJ
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/831ef25a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009